SOUTH VIET NAM In Struggle

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SOUTH VIET NAM NATIONAL FRONT FOR LIBERATION INFORMATION COMMISSION

Saigon - Cholon People's Revolutionary Committee set up

The Saigon-Cholon People's Revolutionary Committee has been set up at a recent congress, held on May 30.

The congress was attended by representatives of the people in Saigon - Cholon, the Saigon - Cholon - Gia Dinh Committee of the South Viet Nam National Front for Liberation, the Saigon-Cholon-Gia Dinh Committee of the Viet Nam Alliance of National, Democratic and Peace Forces, mass organizations, political parties, political groupings, religious communities, and personalities in the towns.

Also represented at the congress were workers, small traders, students, urban people's armed forces, the various guard-units of Saigon, the all-women home-guard unit named after Mme LE THI RIENG and the home-guard unit named after TRAN VAN KIEU (both leaders of the popular movement in South Viet Nam recently murdered by the US-puppets.)

Among the participants were professors, lawyers, journalists, businessmen, and high-ranking officials of the Saigon army and administration.

The Saigon-Cholon People's Revolutionary Committee includes:

Professor NGUYEN VAN CHI, President,

HUYNH VAN NGHI, first Vice-President, former expert of the Saigon administration, representing the VNANDPF,

Mme PHAM THI YEN, Second Vice-President, Pharmacist, representing the NFL,

LE HIEU DANG, Secretary General, representing the Saigon students' movement, and

Engineers NGUYEN HUU KHUONG and HO VAN BUU, and writer, Mme VAN TRANG, members.

FIDEL CASTRO:

THE TASK OF ALL REVOLUTIONARY MOVEMENTS IS TO GIVE FULL AND RESOLUTE SUPPORT TO THE NFL'S TEN-POINTS

Tran Buu Kiem, member of the Presidium of the South Viet Nam NFL Central Committee, Head of the NFL CC's Commission for External Relations, and Head of the NFL delegation to the Paris Conference on Viet Nam, arrived in Havana, on June 1st, for a friendship visit at the invitation of the Cuban Revolutionary Government.

He was accompanied by Ly Van Sau, adviser to the NFL delegation at the Paris Conference.

The delegation was heartely welcomed at the airport by Raul Castro, Second Secretary of the Communist Party of Cuba Central Committee and Vice-Premier, Juan Almeida, Sergio Del Valle and Ramiro Valdes, members of the Political Bureau, Carlos Rafael and Blas Roca, members of the Secretariat of the Party's Central Committee, Raul Roa, member of the Party's Central Committee and Minister of Foreign Affairs; other Central Committee members of the Party, Ministers and Vice-ministers, and other high-ranking officials of the Party, Government and mass organisations.

Also on hand to greet NFL delegates were Melba Hernandez, President of the National Committee for Solidarity with the people of South Viet Nam, Raul Valdes Vivo, Cuban Ambassador to South Viet Nam.

Hoang Bich Son, Head of the South Viet Nam NFL Permanent Mission, Ngo Mau, DRVN Ambassador and other diplomatic envoys to Cuba were also present.

On behalf of the Cuban Revolutionary Government Raul Roa highly praised the militant solidarity between

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PLAF crossing a brook

Aquarelle by HUYNH PHUONG DONG

May 1969:

A MOST REMARKABLE MONTH OF PLAF VICTORIES

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South Vietnamese women intellectuals, face to US aggression

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GENERAL ELECTIONS CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY COALITION GOVERNMENT

SPEAKING first, at the 19th session of the Paris Conference on Viet Nam, Tran Buu Kiem, Head of the Delegation of the South Viet Nam National Front for Liberation, pointed out that the Paris Conference had made no progress so far because the US delegate on the one hand used fallacious allegations and on the other stuck to its aggressive stand and its scheme to maintain neo-colonialism in South Viet Nam.

The NFL head delegate pointed out that while public opinion in the world was widely acclaiming the ten-point overall solution of the South Viet Nam problem advanced by the NFL and demanding the withdrawal of all the troops of the US and its satellites from South Viet Nam, the US delegate kept repeating the "mutual troop withdrawal" formula. This, he said, amounts to putting conditions for the pull-out of US troops and troops of the other foreign countries in the US camp from South Viet Nam.

He went on:

The Vietnamese people categorically reject that absurd demand. The troops of the US and the other foreign countries in the US camp are aggressor troops in South Viet Nam, they must withdraw without asking any condition whatever from the Vietnamese people. As for the question of the armed forces in South Viet Nam, it comes under the purview of the Vietnamese people and is made clear in the ten-point solution of the NFL will be settled by the Vietnamese people among themselves.

Rebuffing the fallacious allegation of the US that it "seeks the opportunity for the South Vietnamese people to determine their own political future", Tran Buu Kiem stressed that what is preventing the South Vietnamese people from exercising their right of self-determination is precisely the fact that more than 600,000 troops of the US and the other foreign countries of the US camp are forcing the South Vietnamese people at gunpoint to accept camouflaged colonialist regime rigged up by the US. The right of the South Vietnamese people to self-determination can be achieved only through the path charted out by the ten-point solution of the NFL, namely to hold free and democratic general elections, elect a Constituent Assembly, build the constitution and form a coalition government, and in the period prior to the general elections, the political forces representing various strata of the population and various political tendencies in South Viet Nam including those persons who, for political reasons, have, to live abroad, but who stand for peace, independence and neutrality, will enter into talks to set up a provisional coalition government. This fair and reasonable undertaking is the most realistic one to settle the political problem in South Viet Nam. However, with regard to this correct undertaking, the US has always tried to shun it with round-about and vague statements and at the same time has done its best to bolster up the falling Thieu-Ky-Huong puppet administration.

At the 20th session, Mme Nguyen Thi Binh, Deputy-Chief of the South Viet Nam NFL delegation, pointed out the basic differences between the ten-point overall solution of the South Viet Nam NFL and the eight-point program of the US, particularly on two principal issues: the withdrawal from South Viet Nam of all US troops and troops of the other foreign countries of the US camp without setting any condition, and the setting up of a coalition government in South Viet Nam.

Mme Nguyen Thi Binh denounced the perfidious attitude of the US government which though having had to talk of getting US troops out of South Viet Nam in face of heavy setbacks in its war of aggression in Viet Nam and of the strong demands of the American people and of the world's people, still clings to the unreasonable claim for "mutual troops withdrawal" which the South Viet Nam NFL has flatly rejected.

She clearly pointed out: the Vietnamese people will never accept such request. As long as the US sticks to its "mutual withdrawal of troops", the US pledge to withdraw its troops from South Viet Nam is nothing but empty words."

Mme Nguyen Thi Binh laid bare the scheme of the US ruling circles to prolong the presence of the US expeditionary troops in South Viet Nam with the aim of gaining time to bolster up the puppet army and administration, and carry out the Vietnamization" of the war, using Vietnamese, under the US command, to fight the Vietnamese. Mme Nguyen Thi Binh recalled the heavy defeats and serious losses of the US in its former "special war" as well as in the current "local war" in South Viet Nam. She pointed out: the US administration's scheme of "Vietnamizing" and de-Americanizing the war is only to come back to the old trail but not to find way out an advantageous for them. The only honourable way out for the US opened by the ten-point solution of the South Viet Nam NFL is: the US withdraw all its troops and all troops of the other foreign countries of the US camp from South Viet Nam without posing any condition. The quicker the US withdraws its troops, the better for it.

About the establishment of a coalition government in South Viet Nam, Mme Nguyen Thi Binh criticized the not serious attitude and the evasive and crafty arguments of the US on this question. On the one hand, the US speaks of "respect for the free choice of the South Vietnamese people" but on the other hand, it seeks to maintain the Thieu-Ky-Huong lackey administration rigged up by the US. The US speaks of free elections", but keeps styling the puppet regime "legal", and "constitutional". Meanwhile the Saigon puppet administration stubbornly opposes the setting up of a coalition government and sticks to its reactionary constitution.

Mme Nguyen Thi Binh condemned the US for its acts of war intensification in South Viet Nam as an attempt to exert "maximum pressure." Realities have proved, however, that the harder it tries to exert "maximum pressure" the heavier setbacks it has suffered and the greater is its isolation in the political arena and the higher the indignation of the American people, she said.

Mme Nguyen Thi Binh went on to say that if the Nixon administration respects the aspirations and interests of the American people and respects the right of self-determination of the South Vietnamese people, it must give up its design of aggression, withdraw all US troops and troops of other countries in the US camp from South Viet Nam without setting any condition, renounce its support for the Thieu-Ky-Huong puppet administration, and let the South Vietnamese people settle themselves their own affairs without foreign interference.

If the Nixon administration obstinately nurtures the illusion that it could secure a "position of strength" on the battlefield and at the conference table, the South Vietnamese people on the elan of their present victorious position are determined to exercise their sacred right of self-defence and push forward their fight until they have won back genuine independence and freedom for the Fatherland.

The task of all revolutionary movements...

(*Continued from page 1*)

the Cuban people and the South Vietnamese people, and expressed the former's jubilance at the great, all-round victories recorded by their friends in South Viet Nam.

In his reply, Tran Buu Kiem expressed the heartfelt thanks of the people and NFL of South Viet Nam for the support of the Communist Party, Government and people of Cuba headed by Premier Fidel Castro, the national hero of Cuba and a beloved friend of all nations fighting for national liberation.

On June 1, Tran Buu Kiem gave a reception in Havana. Among the distinguished guests were Fidel Castro, First Secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Cuba and Premier of the Cuban Revolutionary Government, Osvaldo Dorticos Torrado, President of the Republic of Cuba, and many high-ranking officials of the Cuban Party and State, members of the diplomatic corps, and membres of the NFL Permanent Mission in Havana...

Official talks were held in Havana on June 2nd between the delegation of the South Viet Nam NFL visiting in Cuba and Cuban Party and State leaders.

Present on the South Vietnamese side were Hoang Bich Son and Ly Van Sau, on the Cuban side were: Fidel Castro, Osvaldo Dorticos Torrado, Raul Castro, Segio Del Valle, Juan Almeida, Ramiro, Raul Roa, Raul Valdes Vivo.

On behalf of the Presidium of the South Viet Nam NFL Central Committee, Tran Buu Kiem talked to the Cuban delegates about the South Vietnamese people's struggle against US aggression, for national salvation. He emphasized the South Viet Nam people's determination to fight on and explained the stand adopted by the NFL at the Paris Conference and the Front's 10-point overall solution to the South Viet Nam problem.

Fidel Castro, on behalf of the Party, Government and people of Cuba, expressed the Cuban people's elation at the big victories repeatedly recorded by the South Viet Nam armed forces and people and voiced Cuba's unreserved support for the South Vietnamese people's just struggle, particularly for the NFL 10-point solution.

The talks proceeded in an atmosphere of friendship and millitant solidarity between companions in arms on the same front line.

In his speech before over 500,000 people of Havana and the neighbouring provinces in Jose Marti Square on June 4, Fidel Castro declared: «We support the ten-points not only because of our feelings towards Viet Nam, our love and our admiration for Viet Nam, and our solidarity with Viet Nam, but also because of justice, morality, the most basic principles and the fundamental national rights of all nations».

He went on: «We hold that the task of all revolutionary movements is to give full, and resolute support to the ten-points of the South Viet Nam NFL».

Snipers in Saigon

Photo: GPA.

US new crimes

DURING the White House race Richard Nixon promised the American people an early end to the South Viet Nam war if he was elected. Far from honouring his word, he has been bending his energies on the implemention of Lyndon B. Johnson's outdated policy of "bringing maximum military pressure" to bear to "secure a position of strength" on the battlefield and at the Conference table. Consequently the US criminal war of aggression in South Viet Nam continues with increasing fierceness.

Since Nixon was sworn into office, an other 3,000 American GIs and 1,500 Thailand mercenary troops have been introduced into South Viet Nam. US war spending in Viet Nam for the current year has been raised to 28,400 million (AP April 5, 1969). The puppet army has been feverishly beefed up and equipped with new weapons and other sophisticated war means. At the same time, on Washington's orders, the Saigon administration has swelled its war budget for 1969 by 20 per cent as compared with the preceding year.

In execution of the so-called "accelerated pacification" program, US-puppet troops have been carrying out round-the-clock "sweeps", savagely massacring civilians and devastating entire villages. Since early 1969 the monthly average of such operations has doubled in comparison with the same period last year.

For instance, the months of March, April and May witnessed numerous bloody "sweeps" in Quang Nam province. Whole areas around Da Nang and in Go Noi and Ky Lam have been razed to the ground. Over 2,000 tons of paddy and rice belonging to the people were burnt down, 5,000 buffaloes and oxen killed and some 10,000 houses reduced to ashes. 2,318 people were killed or wounded-mostly old-aged persons, women and children among whom four youngsters, Anh, Dung, Hong and Cuc aged from 14 to 16 from Dien Binh village. These were stabbed to death with daggers by US and puppet soldiers after having their ears and noses cut off. More than 2,000 people were herded into concentration camps.

In Quang Ngai province, after the heinous mass murders in Ba Lang An in April, Khanh Giang hamlet was put to fire and sword. 500 or so houses were set on fire, the people's property, including orchards, completely destroyed and 264 people slaughtered among them children under 10 and men and women over 60.

Gia Dinh, Binh Duong, Bac Lieu, Soc Trang and Ca Mau provinces (Nam Bo), during April and May, were targets of fierce raids. According to still incomplete figures, the number of houses destroyed by fire ran as high as 23,500, and civilian casualties of shelling and strafing-two-thirds of them being old-aged and children-reached 2,000.

Meanwhile, B-52 carpet-bombings on populated areas and around urban centres were raised to an unprecedented degree of intensity. The number of sorties and the tonnage of bombs dropped on these places went up at least tenfold.

In May alone these superforts churned up vast areas comprizing several densely populated villages in Binh Duong, Tay Ninh, Binh Long, Phuoc Long, Long Khanh, Vinh Binh, Komtum, Quang Tri and Thua Thien provinces. In 50 sorties within twelve hours on May 5, they ravaged 1,500 tons on Catum, Tay Ninh. And in three days-May 5, 6 and 12-they dumped 15,000 tons on several regions of Tay Ninh and Binh Long provinces.

In the above-mentioned air raids, apart from napalm and demolition-bombs, the Americans used 10,000 and 15 000-pound highly destructive bombs.

Until May this year, as a result of "mopping-up" operations and B-52 strikes, 258 of the 486 hamlets of Quang Da province have been blotted out, and well over a thousand civilians killed or wounded. Since the beginning of the year for each of the 1,000 villagers of a hamlet in Dien Hong an average of 5 tons of bombs has been used.

Together with the use of various types of bombs, the enemy has been stepping up sprayings of toxic chemicals and poison gases.

In Ben Tre, in April over 200 hectares of food-crop lands and orchard were devastated and some 200 people-mostly women and children-poisoned to death. In Quang Nam, the month of May saw the complete destruction of 64 sq. km. of food crops and fruit trees; 2,000 people were seriously affected, many of them lethally. Such tragic occurrences simultaneously took place in Long An, Ba Ria and other provinces.

On May 23 last, Saigon Radio gave the following intimation of the crimes perpetrated by the American aggressors and their lackeys: "At present, there is no place in South Viet Nam free from American and republican troops combined mopping-up operations with B-52s, toxic chemicals and other fighter-planes."

Needless to say the crimes listed above are in themselves abundant evidence of the US aggressors' stubbornness, cruelty and perfidy.

US-PUPPETS BREAK BUDDHA'S BIRTHDAY TRUCE

The US and its henchmen have on many occasions broken the truce initiated by the NFL on the occasion of Buddha's birth anniversary.

The two-day truce, decided upon by the Presidium of the NFL. Central Committee and put into effect by the Command of the People's Liberation Armed Forces, began at 6 a.m. (Indo-China Time), May 29.

The reconnaissance activity and bombing raids by US aircraft and artillery bombardments were recorded all through May 26 along many roads and in many areas in Duc Hoa, Duc Hue, Ben Thi and Can Giuoc districts (Long An province), Chau Thanh, Ben Cat and Trang Bang districts (Tay Ninh), Cu Chi district (Gia Dinh), Ben Cat, Dau Tieng and Tan Uyen districts (Binh Duong), and in the provinces of My Tho, Can Tho, Vinh Long, Tra Vinh, Quang Nam, Thua Thien, etc. Meanwhile, searches were made by the police to hinder the movement of pilgriming Buddhists on Saigon streets, the Bien Hoa autoroute, and Highways 1, 13 and 14.

More serious still, B-52 aircraft on many flights at 2 p.m. on May 29 dumped hundreds of tons of bombs on the northwestern part of Tay Ninh province north of Saigon. The same region was subject to repeated air strikes and artillery bombardments throughout the night of May 29 early May 30. Many civilians were killed or wounded; and heavy material losses were caused to the local population.

These deliberate war acts have brought out in bolder relief the aggressive character of the US imperialists and the traitorous features of the Thieu-Ky-Huong administration.

In South Viet Nam every bush, every inch of land, bears traces of US-puppet's bombs and shells.

Pencil-drawing by LE LAM

Saigon press under Thieu-Ky-Huongs' grip

Acting on Thieu-Ky-Huong's instructions, the Director of the Saigon Press Department have decided of late made public to representatives of the press the administration's "new line toward the press".

According this "new line", there will be no more censorship. Nevertheless, every newspaper "must bear full responsibility" for what is published in it, "including translated materials of foreign origin". All materials whatsoever, additionally, must be presented in advance to the Press Department.

With the measure in question, the puppet authorities have revealed their fascist nature in dealing with the press in the zone under their control. Indeed, while trying to placate journalists who have been struggling for freedom of the press and to cover up their dictatorial rule, they just hold to their intention to subdue the press and find every pretext to crack down on any journalist who ventures to speak the truth in South Viet Nam. On this score the Saigon Guardian, in an issue of last March, had to complain that the press was kept in fear of the authority of the government.

The South Vietnamese people generally, and Saigon pressmen in particular, regard Thieu-Ky-Huong's fresh move as a "demagogic one" in view of the fact that, for merely reflecting actual events in the South, many newspapers have been closed down or sued or have whole issues held seized.

*It is to recall that Thieu-Ky-Huong have already staged the farce of "democratic measures" and "abolition of censorship" with regard to the press. After their issuing the "order" to rescind censorship in May 1968, over 30 (**Thoi Dai Moi, Quyet Tien, Hoa Binh, Chanh Dao, Cong Nhan, Tia Sang** etc) out of 47 papers have been banned, several among them—**Tan Dan** for instance—managed by men who, though associated with the Saigon administration, advocated ideas contrary to the ruling trio's. Searches of newspaper offices have become daily occurences.*

Worse still, many directors and editors-in-chief were sternly punished: Tran Van Phat, editors of Cong Nhan, sentenced to 20 years' hard labour, Nguyen Lan, director of Saigon Daily News, arrested pending trial; Pham Van Nhon, editor of Viet Nam Moi, jailed for "spying activities for the Viet Cong".

Even Western news agencies have pointed to this hard fact: In South Viet Nam, each time a newspaper is muted, a government spokesman rings the changes about the absence of press censorship (AP, May 11, 1969).

An editor said off the record that Vietnamese pressmen in Saigon can be fined, sued or apprehended at any time if in his stories he happens to say the truth about the South Viet Nam situation. His stories will be interpreted as espousing communist theories, impairing the fighting spirit of the armed forces at the front or undermining national unity (Reuter, May 7, 1969).

Never have journalists in occupied South Viet Nam experienced such an oppressive climate. They therefore deeply realize that so long as the Americans and their puppets flout national independence and liberty they cannot enjoy real freedom of the press. To achieve this the problem facing them is to rise up and, together with the entire people, topple the Thieu-Ky-Huong gang with a view to the formation of a peace-restoring cabinet that will engage serious talks with the National Front for Liberation. That is the way which has been, and will be, followed true journalists. With the support of the South Vietnamese people as a whole, they will surely attain their objectives.

DUY PHUONG

MAY 1969: A MOST REMARKABLE MONTH OF PLAF VICTORIES

* 57 nerve organs, 41 military airfields, 25 supply complexes in more than 30 cities and provincial capitals attacked
* 65,000 enemy troops killed and wounded
* Nearly 600 aircraft shot down or destroyed
* 1,100 vehicles destroyed and 65 war wessels sank or set ablaze

(Communique of the PLAF Command on May victories)

The Commond of the people's Liberation Armed Forces has issued a communique dated June 2 on the brilliant successes recorded by the armed forces and people in South Viet Nam in May 1969:

"ON May 12, the South Viet Nam armed forces and people mounted widespread attacks and uprisings in more than 30 cities and towns namely Saigon, Hue, Da Nang and Da Lat cities and the provincial towns of Quang Tri, Tam Ky, Hoi An, Quang Ngai, Tuy Hoa, Ban Me Thuot, Kontum, Pleiku, Phan Rang, Phan Thiet, Gia Nghia, Xuan Loc, Bien Hoa, Phuoc Long, Binh Long, Tay Ninh, Thu Dau Mot, Tan An, Hau Nghia, My Tho, Ben Tre, Chau Doc, Moc Hoa, Cao Lanh, Rach Gia, Vi Thanh, Can Tho, Tra Vinh and Ca Mau.

They assaulted 57 key strongholds or nerve organs including the headquarters of the 1st and 2nd Corps areas, the headquarters of the Ranger Joint Forces, the puppet police General Directorate, the HQs of the Americal, 3rd Marine, 101st Airborne, Air Mobile Cavalry and 1st, 9th and 25th Infantry Divisions of the US, the headquarters of the puppet 1st, 2nd, 7th, 18th, 23th and 25th Divisions, the HQs of the South Korean "White Horse" Division, and many brigade or regimental headquarters of US, puppet and mercenary forces.

They struck 41 military airfields including major airbases of the US at Tan Son Nhut, Bien Hoa, Phu Bai, Da Nang, Chu Lai, Binh Thuy and Tra Noc.

They hit 25 enemy important supply complexes among them Cua Viet, Sa Huu, Da Nang, Dakto, Kontum, Cam Ranh, Long Binh and Go Vap.

They launched attacks and uprisings in nearly 100 townships, district capitals and military sub-sectors.

They cut off or apply heavy pressure to enemy traffic on land and water ways including Highways 14 and 19 on the High Plateaux, Highway One in the central part of Central Viet Nam, Highways 4 in the Mekong River delta, 15 and 20 in the oriental Nam Bo and the Long Tau river south of Saigon.

According to still incomplete tally, in nearly 30 days of fighting, the South Viet Nam armed forces and people put out of action 65,000 enemy troops including nearly 30,000 American and satellite troops.

In terms of units, they wiped out or heavily depleted 3 US brigades, one puppet regiment, 26 battalions, 90 companies and 3 amour columns.

They shot down or destroyed to the ground nearly 600 aircraft, destroyed 1,100 military vehicles, 620 of which were armoured cars, sank or set ablaze 65 war vessels, destroyed more than 250 artillery pieces, and blotted out by burning many ammunition or gazoline depots.

This was a most remarkable month in terms of military achivement in the more than one year of widespread offensives and uprisings. These results bear *a major significance:*

I — While making noisy professions of peace, the Nixon administration has stepped up the war to a higher level than under the Johnson regime in an attempt to keep policy and to secure a "position of strength" both on the battlefield and at the conference table.

US aircraft have poured on populated areas of South Viet Nam more than 130,000 tons of bomb monthly, a tonnage higher than in the last months of Johnson's office. The US has at least decupled the number of B-52 daily sorties and increased to 1,500 tons, and at times to over 2,000 tons, the daily amount of bombs dropped on South Viet Nam. It has deployed its forces in desperate operations such as the one conducted by the US 101st Air-Borne Division against Mount A Bia and A So area, only to take crippling blows from the PLAF.

Meanwhile, with a view to bolstering up the morale of its troops and misleading public opinion in the United States and the world which is strongly criticizing its aggressive war, the US has clamoured that the "Viet-cong" (Liberation Armed Forces) have lost their sting. *The South Viet Nam people have given a stern answer to these dark schemes and brutal acts of war of the enemy with an overall offensive in May.*

2 — *The PLAF and people of South Viet Nam have driven the enemy deeper into the quagmire, dealing yet another heavy blow at his scheme to secure a "position of strength."*

In the military field, the enemy's "clear and hold" defensive strategy has got into even tighter straits and all his positions and bases have been exposed to attacks and encirclement. His defence system has been seriously upset.

In *Eastern Nam Bo,* he had to move American troops from the border area into his inner defence ring. Meantime, in the central part of *Central Viet Nam,* he shifted puppet troops from coastal area to the High Plateaux, and in *the Mekong river delta,* enemy troops had to be redeployed to provide against attacks by the PLAF in An Giang. An important part of US manpower was pinned down and sustained heavy losses in A So and A Bia areas in Tri Thien.

Guerilla war in South Viet Nam's cities, particularly in Saigon, continued to forge ahead, thus rendering all the lairs of the puppet rulers insecure.

The scheme to "de-Americanize" or "Vietnamize" the war, i. e. to use puppet army to carry on the US war of aggression, is going bankrupt. Both American and pup et troops have been badly battered, their losses in lives and war materiels are high.

The worst hit American units were 1st Air Mobile Cavalry Division, the "Americal" Division and the 101st Airborne Division.

Several puppet divisions have been badly mauled, among them the 18th and 25th divisions in the 3rd Tactical Zone, the 7th division in the 4th Tactical Zone, the 2nd division in the 1st Tactical Zone... So have the Thai and Pak Jung Hi mercenaries.

The US-puppets' "accelerated pacification" plan has been repeatedly foiled in many parts of South Viet Nam.

In the political field, the *internal dissensions of the puppet clique have become ever sharper. Thieu — Ky — Huong have been engaged in a needle scramble for power and privileges.*

Differences between the US and the puppet administration have worsened.

Inner divergences in the US and between the US and its satellites have sharpened as a result of the US defeats in Viet Nam. Meanwhile, the American people have been pressing hard for an end to the US war of aggression in South Viet Nam and for the withdrawal of the American troops from here.

The US wants to secure a "position of strength", but the current wave of widespread offensives and uprisings of the South Viet Nam armed forces and people have driven it deeper and deeper into its losing position. The US has been engulfed in the costly war in South Viet Nam which is impairing its prestige and honour."

In conclusion, the communique said: "*For the lofty idea of "Nothing is more precious than independence and freedom" let our armed forces and people make the most of this opportunity, stiffen further their determination to step up their widespread offensives and uprisings and launch repeated and powerful attacks on the enemy. So long as there is a single aggressor left in our country, we are ready to make every sacrifice and overcome all difficulties in our fight to drive him out*".

A gasoline depot of the US aggressors at Dong Ha (North Quang Tri) fired under the PLAF artillery poundings.

Three PLAF fighters against a US company

It was raining cats and dogs over Mount A Bia that afternoon of May 15, 1969. The water gushing down the slope was tinted with GI's blood-shed in the previous battles.

Fighters of Unit X waited calmly in a trench.

For 5 days now men of the US 101st Airborne Division had tried to capture Mount A Bia, but all their assaults had been repelled by the PLAF. Nearly 300 men of the 3rd Airborne Brigade had been felled, and it had taken US commanders a great deal of threats to force their troops up the slope.

Deputy Platoon-leader Le Quang Doi kept his gun pointed at advancing GIs. 5, 7 and 10 had passed, but Doi still did not act.

In a nearby bunker, fighter Doan Huu Phon checked the wire connected to a mine he had planted, while enemy troops, step by step, were approaching to metres, 5, and then one. Phon pulled the wire. The first group of GIs were thrown up. Simultaneously, Dai fired a tank-buster shell at the next cluster of GIs, while Dua, another fighter emptied his machinegun on the enemy fleeing in panic.

Certain that the US commanders would throw their men into another assault. Dai told Dua to get ready.

PLAF men had hardly finished their preparation when other wave of GIs appeared. Dai fired several bursts from his sub-machine and got out the trench to chase the enemy and pick up the fire-arms they had left behind. The Americains withdrew to a safe distance and blazed away blindly at the position defended by 3 liberation fighters only. The two assaults did not change the situation in any way. The 3 PLAF men remained in their trenches, but the US company took 50 casualties and lost 4 ultra-rapid sub-machineguns, 2 heavy machine guns, and 2 two-way radios PRC 25 in its head-long fight.

★

Squad leader Nguyen Duc Chung and his comrades launched a fierce assault on US paratroopers on Hill M., in the A Bia area.

The Americans called in air and artillery to try to stop the uphill advance of the Liberation troops. But Chung and his men showed great courage and resourcefulness and succeeded in crossing the air and artillery barrages. They were now very close to the enemy 120 metres, then 10...5... 3 metres. They rushed forward, gun blazing, and the Yanks, — those who survived, that is — fled in panic. The Liberation soldiers gave them no respite, launching assault upon assault, relentlessly pursueing the fugitives.

All told, 27 Yanks were put out of action in the three assaults given by Chung and his comrades. Chung alone killed 12 in 12 minutes of furious fighting.

South Vietnamese women intellectuals, face to US aggression

OBSTINATELY pursueing their neo-colonialist objectives, the Americans mulishly cling to South Viet Nam in spite of the bitter setbacks they have suffered, on the political and diplomatic as well as military fronts. They ceaselessly intensify their war effort, dropping at random thousands upon thousands of tons of bombs and napalm, killing and massacring civilians in cold blood in the course of their "accelerated pacification operations. Scraping the barrel, they draft and requisition all able-bodied people from 18 to 50 years of age, and carry out savage and dastardly repression against all popular movements for democracy and peace. Didn't General Abrams, the commander-in-chief of American forces in South Viet Nam, cynically declared on March 4, 1969: "We must let it be known to the Vietnamese that, if they continue their struggle, we will destroy their country completely."

Indeed, the Americans have put General Abrams's recommendation into practice with so much success that they have disgusted, revolted and roused the great mass of those who until now have more or less kept away from this war which has been tearing up their country, namely the intellectuals and especially the women intellectuals. The latter are in fact heirs to a long lineage of heroines: the Trung Sisters and Lady Trieu, who resolutely rose up against the foreign invader; Bui Thi Xuan, a woman general in Nguyen Hue's liberation army who valiantly defended the Nghe An front against the Siamese; and more recently, Vo Thi Sau, who died before a firing squad at Poulo Condor for having fulfilled a patriotic mission in the First Resistance; Quach Thi Trang, who fell to enemy bullets at the head of an anti-US-Diem demonstration; Le Thi Hong, member of the Central Committee of the National Front for Liberation, shot by the Americans in a most dastardly way during the Tết 1968 offensive, after months of savage torture. Whether they recognise it or not, all those intellectuals are Vietnamese and in their veins flows the blood of those women who have refused to bow to the oppressor and preferred death to servitude. Besides, how could they remain indifferent before the immense sufferings of their compatriots and the deliberate and systematic genocide being practised against the Vietnamese nation while every day, every hour, more and more voices are being raised in the world against the odious crimes perpetrated by the big, affluent and arrogant USA against Viet Nam, which has with it only the force of right and the boundless patriotism of its people? How could their own conscience leave them in peace while intellectuals the world over, including those of the USA, are making ever-growing contribution to the struggle waged by their people against American imperialism. For an intellectual, human dignity, justice, and freedom are no high-sounding and empty words, but realities for which any price is to be paid. As time passes, it has become ever more evident for the intellectuals that their interests, unlike those of a handful of traitors sold out to the imperialists, cannot but be linked with those of the nation as a whole. True, there was a time

Delegates from all parts of South Viet Nam attended the all South Viet Nam Women's Congress, Mme Nguyen Thi Dinh (left) in conversation with Mme Ma Thi Chu (right) chemist, and other delegates during a break.

when because of their training, education, living conditions, a certain number of intellectuals could look upon themselves as a separate caste, a privileged minority. There was a time when they could still entertain the illusion of being able to lead a quiet life in the midst of the chaos of the war. There was a time when women intellectuals could be content with devoting themselves to social work to soothe their conscience. But that time has gone for good, ever since the first shots rang out, fired by the Liberation Army in the historical days of February 1968.

The veil was brutally torn down. The intellectuals saw, in all its horror, the true face of "our friends and defenders", the Americans. With their own eyes, they witnessed the pitiless bombings and the towering flames kindled by the Americans and their puppets in the populous quarters where soldiers of the Liberation Army were supposedly entrenched; they saw cynical summary executions of war prisoners and "suspects" in public and in broad daylight; they saw the charred and shrivelled bodies of napalmed children, women raped and murdered, old folks arrested, tortured and shot. They understood what "liberty, democracy, and legality" meant for the Saigon regime. On the other hand, for the first time they came into direct contact with those famous Vietcong whom enemy propaganda had falsely pictured as "obtuse, inhuman and blood-thirsty". They came to know those young soldiers full of dignity and proud to fight for their country and the Revolution; they came to love and respect those young girls full of vitality and tranquil courage. As intellectuals, they have pondered and drawn the inevitable conclusions, honestly and bitterly admitting their profound error, that of believing "the free world" to be free. In face of the unprecedented and unimaginable brutality and savagery of the Americans and their puppets, although cut off from the realities of the war, they have grown conscious of their cowardliness and of the necessity for action — speedy and energetic action — to allay the sufferings and trials of their people. But one must recognise, out of experience, that the road to truth and action is not one strewn with roses. In the way stand egoism, laziness, the fear of difficulties, prison, and death; the family, the old parents, the husband and children; material comforts, luxury, an easy life which is not easy to give up. For one does not turn revolutionary overnight, even though at the bottom of one's heart patriotism has not become a dead letter. There is a long process which requires constant perseverance and self-sacrifice, with sometimes painful backslides. Not everyone could say with the simplicity of Mrs Nguyen Thi Binh, the NFL representative in Paris: "During these 23 years of anti-imperialist war, the time I have been able to spend with my husband and children could be counted in days".

However, following the Tết 1968 offensive, the pan-c-stricken Americans have savagely cracked down on all popular movements. They have carried out mass arrests, tried and condemned to death or hard labour for life those who dared to stand up to them. For intimidation, they have even gone to the length of openly murdering those whom they believed dangerous. But instead of putting the people down, they have only succeeded in rousing them. The more flagrant their fascist behaviour becomes, the more irresistible the tidal wave of the Revolution. With an increasing sense of their grave responsibilities women intellectuals have joined those of their comrades who had gone to battle. For a long time already, ever since the first days of the Revolution, women intellectuals have stood in the ranks of the patriots. Right from the start, side by side with their compatriots, they have been struggling relentlessly to defend the most elementary rights of their people. A number of them, aware of the necessity of a total involvement, have engaged in underground activity to make their action more effective. Others have remained where they were to participate in the struggle. The young have learnt to handle weapons to punish the Yankees, the traitors and the turncoats: arrested for having shot dead a puppet officer, the schoolgirl Vo Thi Thang received her sentence of 20 years' hard labour with a laugh ringing dignity, pride and confidence in victory. Taking the places of their male comrades arrested or pressganged into the puppet army, girl students of Saigon universities, in defiance of all intimidations, have never ceased denouncing the aggressors and traitors. Side by side with their compatriots of all walks of life and religious beliefs, women intellectuals have raised the voice of reason and of the people, demanding democracy, freedom of religion, the press, and assembly, and first and foremost an end to the American war of aggression and the return of peace. Large numbers of others, under the yoke of the enemy, are waging a secret and relentless struggle against the aggressor.

WHAT will the future be made of? It will be made of our tireless struggle besides our compatriots for freedom, independence, and peace. It will be made of our love, which will grow ever more conscious and concrete, for our wartorn country. It will be made of the shameful defeat of the American imperialists and their flunkeys, of the resounding and triumphal victory of the Revolution. For us Vietnamese women intellectuals, this is a unique opportunity not only to save our country but also to rise from the status of inferiority to which centuries of feudal traditions have bound us.

Now or never must we show ourselves capable of shouldering our responsibilities in full and contributing our share to the common effort. We have the right to be proud of Mrs Nguyen Thi Dinh, the Deputy Commander-in-Chief of the People's Liberation Armed Forces, as of the young liaison agent who, at any time of day, makes her way through enemy cordons, or of the anonymous doctor who indefatigably looks after victims of American bombings and wounded combatants. We have all understood that in order to obtain our place in the future society, a society where the dignity of woman will no longer be a false but a tangible and concrete reality, we must actively participate in the common struggle. For national liberation will be the decisive stage on the road to the total and definitive liberation of the Vietnamese woman in face of age-old prejudices.

To fight for freedom, independence and peace is to fight for the happiness of all, and also for our own happiness. For then our loved ones will come back from the war. We shall no longer fear for their lives, or grieve over their fates. We shall restore our homes torn apart by the war and rebuild our country in enthusiasm and joy, proud of being of the number of those whose feats have inspired these words of Mauriac's: "The humanity of to-morrow owes a great deal to the Viet Nam of today."

DUONG QUYNH HOA
Doctor of Medicine
Member of the Central Committee of the Viet Nam ANDPF

Armed propaganda in Saigon

FOR that new assignment Phuong had only a few hours to get ready. That afternoon, a NFL cadre came to see her. "The enemy," she said, "is conducting a campaign to belittle our recent successes. You and some other comrades are charged by the Organisation with carrying out armed propaganda at the D.T. cinema this evening to give the lie to his slanders."

Phuong was perplexed. "Look," she said, "I am such a poor orator. But I can cope with thugs. So let me act as bodyguard to another comrade who can better handle an audience."

The NFL cadre smiled. "Nonsense", she said, "you're a very good speaker. Don't you worry. The prestige of revolution and the sympathy of our compatriots will make your job easier, you will see."

That evening, in the movie theatre, Phuong looked blankly at the screen, her mind was wholly taken up by her assignment. Now and then, she would glance at her watch and mentally rehearse the words she was going to say in a few moments. At the appointed time, she left her seat and sneaked behind the screen, where she met a young man, who gave the right password. He looked even younger than her, with a fair complexion. They waited in silence. Phuong's heart was beating wildly.

"Looks as if something has gone wrong," "Phuong's companion murmured. Indeed, the scenes of wild fighting (the agreed on signal for action) had flickered past on the screen without the projector coming to a stop. Phuong and her companion moved a few steps away and got ready for all contingency. However, only a few minutes later, the projector whirred to a halt and everything went dark. Phuong jumped onto the stage and pinned a NFL flag, more than a yard long, on the screen. Then, together with a submachinegun-carrying bodyguard she stepped forward to the proscenium as the lights were turned on again, with a perfect timing. Rose an enthusiastic uproar, then everything fell silent. Thousands of pairs of eyes were fixed on Phuong and her comrade.

An armed propaganda unit working out a plan of action

At the exit, eight policemen were caught napping. Submachineguns were pointed at them, and they hastily took off their caps and stood at attention, their awe-struck eyes glued on the NFL flag.

Phuong's voice rose, clear and distinct. She heard herself speaking and was amazed how fluent and precise her speech was. In the first rows, some people were wiping tears of emotion. Applause thundered again and again.

Phuong spoke about the successes scored by the people during the recent general offensives and concerted uprisings, about the heroism of NFL fighters in street fighting, about the lies poured forth by the Thieu-Ky-Huong clique in a vain attempt to cover up their pitiful setbacks... Enthusiasm grew with every word she said.

She finished speaking after nearly half an hour. Followed by her companion, she stepped down from the stage and the two were immediately mobbed by cheering people. Some pressed gifts on them. Others asked to join the NFL. Phuong thanked them warmly, but told them that she was not allowed to receive any present.

The following day, the NFL cadre again came to see Phuong. She told her that NFL flag had remained on the screen throughout the following show. Only at midnight had the enemy dared to take it down after blocking all four streets leading to the theatre with eleven armoured cars. She also gave an explanation for the delay in getting the projector flickered out the girl student in charge looked so young that the operator refused to comply with her order. Finally, she had to take off her jacket and show him her red armband and pistol.

"Haven't I told you" the militant concluded' "just to go ahead and everything will be all right!"

"Yes, now I understand," Phuong replied "The credit of revolution and the support of the people are such that nothing is too difficult for us. Give me another assignment like this, will you?".

PHUONG HÀNG

Everything for the defence of the new power

VILLAGE P. is located in the vicinity of the provincial capital of Ben Tre, in the Mekong delta. Entanglements of barbed wire and stakes which until recently have been fencing off the "new-life hamlet" are now used in the building of fortifications for the defence of the newly-established people's power. Of the installations of the puppet administration and the two military posts nothing remains but heaps of rubble.

The general offensives of Tet 1968 were at their beginning. On the first night, while the PLAF stormed the town, the people at P., coordinating their action with the guerillas, rose up in a tumultuous insurrection. They assailed the enemy's posts and organs of power amidst deafening thunder of drums and peals of tocsins, shouting to the puppets to surrender, failing which they would be duly punished. All the men of the local administration, of the police and civil guard present at that time in the village—30 in number—laid down their arms. The 30 weapons thus captured were enough to equip a new armed detachment of the village force. It was how the people at P. wrested power from the enemy, putting an end to twenty-odd years of oppression.

The problem now is to defend this power seized with main force. It's no easy job, given the location of the village skirted in front and on the left by the town of Ben Tre with its many US-puppet bases, and constantly menaced from behind by gun boats and units of other types of the enemy's river fleet, prowling up and down the Ham Luong, a major branch of the Mekong River. The Americans and their henchmen will not stand idly with this intolerable thorn of a liberated village in their side. As a matter of fact, other villages which have escaped their control close in upon Ben Tre from all sides, which is, to a degree, a hindrance to their counter-action. Spies manage to infiltrate into P., settle there and carry out sabotage work. On the other hand, the people live under the threat of land and warship-based artillery shelling, of the bombing and strafing by fighter-planes and helicopters, and of commando raids and frequent mop-ups intended to rout out the guerillas and reestablish the quislings' domination.

Five months have passed, five months of continual fighting which have consolidated the people's power, and toughened the village's armed forces, and increased their quality and number. Spiked pits, local-made grenade-traps, and American CBUs and shells turned into booby traps lie in the enemy's way everywhere. Guerillas stand ready to "welcome" them at the most unexpected moment and place or to lure them into mine-fields. To date, all of the adversary's incursions have ended with the withdrawal of their men and a substantial toll.

Anyone who comes to P. for a visit realizes that the miraculous strength of its people lies in their unshakable self-confidence, in the determination of each and all to defend their land, to remain masters of their village and build a free and happy life even under the deluge of bombs and shells of the enemy. The peasant who is seen tilling a ricefield, whether a man or a woman, whether young or old, quickly turns a guerilla fighter at the approach of the enemy. Even elderly people, usually in charge of babies, take part in defence work in one way or another. Buffalo boys make most resourceful scouts. Each inhabitant is a combatant, possessing a carbine, a CBU and a number of spikes to make traps with and always ready to fight when the enemy breaks in and, when he pulls out, to resume his job in production or other social work.

As I was leaving P., I ran into an old peasant having a rest on a paddy embankment. Pointing to his plot of land, he said: "I had no land at all under enemy rule and my only means of livelihood were my arms which earned me a miserable living. The Front has given me this plot after liberation, lately. Forty other poor peasants have received their own at the same time as I did." He paused and cast a dreamy glance at his patch of ground. Turning back to me, he said in raptures, "Tell me, young man, isn't it true that our land is only partially liberated? What a blessing, when it is completely freed and reunified?"

N.P.

GPA Ben Tre correspondent

In our liberated zones

In the past six months of 1969, 18,000 patients were given medical attention, 46,4000 fials and 77,800 bottles of various medicines and 2,000,000 antidiarrhoea tablets were produced by the Central NamBo health service. Health organizations in Kien Tuong and An Giang provinces successfully developed an antibiotic and antimalaria drugs with traditional material.

The same organ also trained 491 medical assistants, 160 nurses, 74 assistant doctors, 22 laboratory assistants, 10 midwives and 91 assistant midwives.

In Western Nam Bo, along with the completion of an all-level civilian health network, 20 health teams consisting of 70 doctors and assistant doctors were sent to the front. In the past six months, 60 kinds of Western and Eastern medicine were produced, 70 assistant pharmacists were given schooling, 30 crash courses were opened for thousands of village health workers. The Pharmaceutical Factory of Central Trung Bo overfulfilled its 1968 plan of production of traditional medicines.

In the first three months of 1969, it sarned out a volume of drugs in fial form per cent bigger than that of 1967 (8 times the norm of the first quarter of 1967, 95 per cent of the 1968 plan).

Its production of drugs in tablet form increased by 10 per cent in comparison with the 1968 quota. There were workers who raised their efficiency from 8,400 to 8,500 tablets an hour, doubling the record set at the beginning of 1968.

LATEST NEWS

It is a great pleasure for SOUTH VIET NAM IN STRUGGLE to inform its readers that the *Provisional Revolutionary Government of the Republic of South Viet Nam* has been set up by the *South Viet Nam Peoples' Representatives Congress* which met on June 6-8, 1969.

The Congress had been decided at a consultative Conference between the NFL and the Viet Nam Alliance of National, Democratic and Peace Forces.

The Provisional Revolutionary Government is headed by Architect Huynh Tan Phat, Vice-President of the NFL Presidium.

Lawyer Nguyen Huu Tho, President of the NFL is appointed President of the Conselors' Council.

Documents related to the South Vietnamese Peoples' Representatives Congress and the Provisional Revolutionary Government will be published in the next issue, (in the special number) of the *SOUTH VIET NAM IN STRUGGLE*.

THE WORLD AND THE NFL OVERALL SOLUTION

CAMBODIA. — Cambodian Head of State, Samdech Norodom Sihanouk, on May 25, sent a message to Lawyer Nguyen Huu Tho, President of the Presidium of the South Viet Nam NFL Central Committee voicing full support for the NFL's ten-point overall solution to the South Viet Nam problem.

The message said: «While assuring you of our unreserved support to your peace programme, I reaffirm to you our full solidarity with the NFL now struggling with heroism and success for the complete independence of their country".

LAOS. — In a message to Lawyer Nguyen Huu Tho on May, Prince Souphanouvong, Chairman of the Central Committee of the Laotian Patriotic Front, said: "The principles and content of the overall solution are very just and reasonable because they ensure the South Vietnamese people's fundamental national rights and meet the legitimate desire of the Vietnamese people and American people, and also of the Laotian and other peoples all over the world".

PDR OF KOREA. — In his speech at the reception given in honour of the President of the South Yemen, June 4, Premier Kim Il Sung, strongly condemned the US imperialists for their perfidious manoeuvres at the Paris Conference on Viet Nam and for their frantic efforts to intensify their war of aggression in South Viet Nam. The Korean leader affirmed the Korean people's full support for the ten-points of the NFL.

CUBA. — "These propcsals are based on respect for the fundamental national rights of the vietnamese people and the principles laid down in the Political Program, and in the NFL's 5-point declaration...

"The people and the Cuban Revolutionary Government give full support to the NFL's ten-points"... said the Declaration made public on May 22 by the Cuban Foreign affairs Ministry.

GDR. — After he had received the text of the NFL's 10-point overall solution from Nguyen Nhu, Head of the NFL Permanent Mission in GDR, Willi Stoph, GDR Prime Minister said: "It is most necessary that the US should recognize the national rights of the Vietnamese people. Progress at the Paris four party talks solely depends on the readiness of the United States to seriously and realistically examine the new proposals of the NFL".

BULGARIA. — Todor Zhivkov, Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the People's Republic of Bulgaria, when receiving Huynh Phan, Head of the South Viet Nam NFL Permanent Mission in Bulgaria in May 29, declared: "The government and the bulgarian people are of the opinion that the NFL's 10-point overall solution is constituted by realistic and constructive proposals for restoring peace in Viet Nam. If the US withdraw all their troops from South Viet Nam, the problem in Viet Nam could be settled immediately."

POLAND. — On May 30, Marian Spychalski, President of the State Council of the Polish People's Republic, assured Tran Van Tu, Head of the South Viet Nam NFL Permanent Representation in Warsaw, of the full support given by the Government and people of Poland to the 10-point solution of the South Viet Nam NFL. He said: "The NFL's proposals are the basis for the achievement of the objectives of the heroic struggle of the Vietnamese people - freedom, territoral integrity, sovereignty and self-determination."

RUMANIA. — "The US must withdraw all its troops from South Viet Nam and let the South Vietnamese people decide their own destiny", declared Nicolae Ceausescu, Chairman of the Council of State and President of the Socialist United Front of the Rumanian Socialist Republic when receiving Tran Hoai Nam, member of the South Viet Nam Nam NFL Delegation to the Paris Conference on Viet Nam.

N.Ceausescu said: "We fully support the NFL's to-point overall solution. It poses the problem in a very correct and very realistic way and constitutes a good basis for a correct solution to the South Vietnamese problem".

MONGOLIA. — In an interview given to the "New York Times", T. Tsedenbal, President of the Council of Ministers of the PR of Mongolia, expressed his country's full support to the NFL's overall solution and considered it a logic basis for the peaceful settlement of the South Vietnamese problem.

CZECHOSLOVAKIA. — In May, Torfthy, Vice-president of the Presidium of the CC of the National Front, Sediby, deputy-head of the international section of the CC of the Czechoslovak Communist Party, professor Stebacowsky, President of the Peace Committee, and Heron, Head of the Asia department of the Foreign affairs Ministry of Czechoslovakia had meetings with Nguyen Vinh, charge d'affaires of the Permanent Representation of the NFL in Czechoslovakia.

They stressed that the Government and the Czechoslovakia people support this solution and demand that the US put an end to its aggression, respect the Vietnamese people fundamental national rights.

CONGO (B). — On May 24, Alfred Raoul, Premier and Acting President of the Republic of the Congo (B) declared that he fully supports the just resistance war of the South Vietnamese people and the NFL's to-point overall solution.

WFTU. — At its closing session in Bucharest on May 30, the 36th meeting of the Executive Committee of the World Federation of Trade Unions adopted a resolution warmly welcoming the NFL's proposals and considered them a reasonable and logical basis for a solution to the SQuth Vietnamese problem and the restoration of peace in Viet Nam and a good opportunity for the US to find a honourable way out so as to end its war of aggression in Viet Nam.

We resolutely support the African peoples' struggle

AFTER world war II, the national-liberation movement in Africa has gained ever more momentum.

To date, over forty countries in this continent have won independence. This is a far-reaching victory for the African peoples, the national-liberation movement and the struggle for independence, democracy, peace and social progress of the world peoples as a whole. This is also a heavy setback for colonialist imperialism and its agents who have over the centuries submitted the African peoples to savage domination and oppression.

Nevertheless, the imperialists of all plumage headed by the US, have not reconciled themselves to giving up their design on Africa where they still maintain a firm hold on wide resources. They are trying by every means to replace old-type colonialism by neo-colonialism. Taking avantage of the difficulties that many countries have to confront as the result of the former colonial rule, and using every perfidious manoeuvre, they set out to preserve their existing interests and wrest new positions. Through the instrumentality of local reactionaries on their payroll, and under the "aid" label, the Americans leave no stone unturned to topple governments of independent countries which carry out a policy of active opposition to imperialism, colonialism and neo-colonialism. They have brought to Africa thousands of secret agents and spies specialized in sowing division among the people and engineering conflicts and coups d'état. They have staged armed intervention in the Congo, and come to the rescue of the French and Portuguese colonialists and South African racists (Apartheid) for the suppression of the people's movement for independence and freedom.

The revolutionary struggle of the African peoples who have achieved independence for the defence of their sovereignty and for national construction, just as the struggle for the completion of Africa's liberation, is bound to meet with many difficulties ahead. It is however unfolding forcefully as a tidal wave.

Most striking in the present national-liberation movement in Africa is the revolutionary armed struggle waged continously and momentously in several parts of this continent still under the sway of colonialism.

While fighting against imperialism, colonialism and neo-colonialism with US imperialism in the van, the African peoples make a worthy contribution to the common struggle of mankind for national independence, democracy, peace and social progress.

Our resistance to US aggression under the leadership of the NFL, have always enjoyed the deep sympathy and unreserved support of the peoples and many governments of Africa.

Recently, leaders of political parties in power, governments and mass organizations have warmly welcomed and strongly backed the NFL overall solution to the South Vietnamese problem to help restore peace in Viet Nam. This forms a new, very valuable expression of their militant solidarity with our people.

The National Front for Liberation and people of South Viet Nam highly rate and attach great importance to this support. On our part, as in the past we continue to shore up the just liberation struggle of the fraternal peoples of Africa against imperialism and colonialism of the old and new patterns.

At the forefront of the fight against American imperialism here in Southeast Asia, the South Vietnamese people share the difficulties and hardships of the African peoples and, together with them and other peoples around the world, are doing their best to make an active contribution to the common fight against US scheme of aggression, domination and spoliation.

United in their struggle the African peoples will win!

Vietnamese Residents' Union hails NFL's ten-points

The Vietnamese Residents' Union in France fully supports the Political Program and the 10-point overall solution of the South Viet Nam National Front for Liberation and regards it as the platform of struggle for the Vietnamese residents' movement in the present period.

Thus said the political resolution adopted at the recent Congress held in a Paris suburb to set up the Vietnamese Residents' Union in France.

The Congress was attended by 300 delegates representing 21 branches of the Union and other organisations of Vietnamese residents throughout France, according to VNA correspondent in Paris.

The delegates were honoured by the visit of Le Duc Tho, Special Advisor to the DRVN Government delegation, and Tran Buu Kiem, Head of the delegation of the South Viet Nam National Front for Liberation, at the Paris Conference on Viet Nam.

Among those coming to greet the Congress were Tran Dinh Lan and Vuong Van Dong, two ex-colonels in the South Viet Nam puppet army, the latter having piloted an aircraft to bomb the "Independence Palace" of the late dictator Ngo Dinh Diem. They represented the "Viet Nam Free Forces".

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